1. (Currently Amended)   A method comprising the steps of:

receiving a query;

separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

tagging each EOC with metadata;

pattern matching each EOC;

calculating a distance function from every EOC to every other EOC in order to calculate a respective calculated distance for each combination of two EOC;

defining a set of virtual buffers comprising a plurality of virtual buffers;

pre-defining each buffer within the plurality of virtual buffers to contain EOC that all have respective calculated distances between each other of less than a given distance value; and

providing each of the EOC to a respective associated virtual buffer within the a set of virtual buffers based upon the respective calculated distances between the each of the EOC and EOC previously provided to that respective associated virtual buffer each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other.

2. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of content news channels.

3. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of related news stories delivered on a single channel at different times.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the query is received via a user interface.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the query is received via an Internet browser.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the query is received via an agent for

pushing relevant information to a user based on a user profile.

7. (Original) .The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises at least one of:

Internet-based, intra-net based, and other online forms of news and information resources;

video broadcasts;

radio broadcasts;

press release forums; and

financial forums.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the EOC comprise at least one of:

text;

video;

audio; and

digital media.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps step of:

summarizing text based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and

creating a corresponding virtual summary buffers buffer for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer to create a respective concatenated EOC;

applying a comparative analysis filter to remove redundant sub-elements from each respective concatenated EOC;

synthesizing summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC from each

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respective concatenated EOC, the context-preserving EOC being determined based upon a respective degree of corroboration of the context preserving EOC, ~~the EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value~~;

synthesizing the content-preserving EOC extracted from each respective concatenated EOC into summary digests; and

presenting the ~~results as~~ summary digests.

11. (Original)   The method of claim 10, wherein the summary digests comprises color-coded sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

12. (Original)   A system comprising:

a digest synthesizing application, wherein the digest synthesizing application, in response to receiving a query, separates a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC), tags each EOC with metadata, pattern matches each EOC, and calculates the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC in order to calculate a respective calculated distance for each combination of two EOC;

a result set manager, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for:

defining a set of virtual buffers comprising a plurality of virtual buffers;

pre-defining each buffer within the plurality of virtual buffers to contain EOC that all have respective calculated distances between each other of less than a given distance value; and

providing each of the EOC to a respective associated virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers based upon the respective calculated distances between the each of the EOC and EOC previously provided to that respective associated virtual buffer~~a result set~~; and

a result set, communicatively coupled to the result set manager, comprising ~~a~~ the set of virtual buffers~~, each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other~~.

13. (Original)   The system of claim 12, wherein the digest synthesizing application comprises:

a query handler, for receiving a query ;

an input filter, communicatively coupled to the query handler, for separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

a distance calculator, communicatively coupled to the input filter, for calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

a pattern-matching filter, communicatively coupled to the distance calculator, for pattern matching each EOC.

14. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 13, <u>wherein the result set manager is further for:</u>

<u>concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer to create a respective concatenated EOC;</u>

<u>extracting context-preserving EOC from each respective concatenated EOC, the context-preserving EOC being determined based upon a respective degree of corroboration of the context preserving EOC;</u>

<u>synthesizing the content-preserving EOC extracted from each respective concatenated EOC into summary digests; and</u>

<u>presenting the summary digests, and</u>

wherein the digest synthesizing application further comprises:

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the pattern-matching filter, for removing redundant sub-elements <u>from each respective concatenated EOC</u>.

15. (Original)   The system of claim 12, further comprising:

a user interface; and

a user interface/event manager, communicatively coupled to the user interface and the digest synthesizing application, for receiving a user query from the user interface and presenting the result set to the user interface.

16. (Original)   The system of claim 12, further comprising an application

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programming interface, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for communicating with other applications.

17. (Original)   The system of claim 12, wherein the result set comprises:

a set of tagged EOC;

a set of virtual buffers, communicatively coupled to the set of tagged EOC; and

a set of summary digests, communicatively coupled to the set of virtual buffers.

18. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 17, wherein the result set further comprises a set of virtual summary buffers, and wherein the result set manager is further for:

summarizing text based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and

creating a corresponding virtual summary buffer within the set of virtual summary buffers for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers.

19. (Currently Amended)   An apparatus comprising:

a digest synthesizing application, wherein the digest synthesizing application, in response to receiving a query, separates a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC), tags each EOC with metadata, pattern matches each EOC, and calculates the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC in order to calculate a respective calculated distance for each combination of two EOC;

a result set manager, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for:

defining a set of virtual buffers comprising a plurality of virtual buffers;

pre-defining each buffer within the plurality of virtual buffers to contain EOC that all have respective calculated distances between each other of less than a given distance value; and

outputting <u>each of the</u> EOC to <u>a respective associated virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers based upon the respective calculated distances between the each of the EOC and EOC previously provided to that respective associated virtual buffer</u> a result set; and

a result set, communicatively coupled to the result set manager, comprising a <u>the</u> set of virtual buffers for storing EOC less than a given distance value.

20. (Original)   The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the digest synthesizing application comprises:

a query handler, for receiving a query ;

an input filter, communicatively coupled to the query handler, for separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

a distance calculator, communicatively coupled to the input filter, for calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

a pattern-matching filter, communicatively coupled to the distance calculator, for pattern matching each EOC.

21. (Currently Amended)   The apparatus of claim 20, <u>wherein the result set manager is further for:</u>

<u>concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer to create a respective concatenated EOC;</u>

<u>extracting context-preserving EOC from each respective concatenated EOC, the context-preserving EOC being determined based upon a respective degree of corroboration of the context preserving EOC;</u>

<u>synthesizing the content-preserving EOC extracted from each respective concatenated EOC into summary digests; and</u>

<u>presenting the summary digests, and</u>

wherein the digest synthesizing application further comprises:

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the pattern-matching filter, for removing redundant sub-elements <u>from each respective concatenated EOC.</u>

22. (Original)   The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:

a user interface; and

a user interface/event manager, communicatively coupled to the user interface and the digest synthesizing application, for receiving a user query from the user interface and presenting the result set to the user interface.

23. (Original)   The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising an application programming interface, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for communicating with other applications.

24. (Original)   The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the result set comprises:

a set of tagged EOC;

a set of virtual buffers, communicatively coupled to the set of tagged EOC; and

a set of summary digests, communicatively coupled to the set of virtual buffers.

25. (Currently Amended)   The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the result set further comprises a set of virtual summary buffers, and wherein the result set manager is further for:

summarizing text based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and

creating a corresponding virtual summary buffer within the set of virtual summary buffers for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers.

26. (Currently Amended)   A computer readable medium including computer instructions for driving a digest synthesizing application, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

receiving a query;

separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

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tagging each EOC with metadata;

pattern matching each EOC;

calculating a distance function from every EOC to every other EOC in order to calculate a respective calculated distance for each combination of two EOC;

defining a set of virtual buffers comprising a plurality of virtual buffers;

pre-defining each buffer within the plurality of virtual buffers to contain EOC that all have respective calculated distances between each other of less than a given distance value; and

providing each of the EOC to a respective associated virtual buffer within the a set of virtual buffers based upon the respective calculated distances between the each of the EOC and EOC previously provided to that respective associated virtual buffer each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other.

27. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of content news channels.

28. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of related stories delivered on a news single channel at different times.

29. (Original)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the query is received via a user interface.

30. (Original)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the query is received via an Internet browser.

31. (Original)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the query is received via an agent for pushing relevant information to a user based on a user profile.

32. (Original)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the plurality of

information sources comprises at least one of:

Internet-based, intra-net based, and other online forms of news and information resources;

video broadcasts;

radio broadcasts;

press release forums; and

financial forums.

33. (Original)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the EOC comprise at least one of:

text;

video;

audio; and

digital media.

34. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, further comprising computer instructions for a-step steps of:

summarizing text based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and

creating a corresponding virtual summary buffers buffer for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers.

35. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium of claim 26, further comprising computer instructions for the steps of:

concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer to create a respective concatenated EOC;

applying a comparative analysis filter to remove redundant sub-elements from each respective concatenated EOC;

synthesizing summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC from each

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respective concatenated EOC, the context-preserving EOC being determined based upon a respective degree of corroboration of the context preserving EOC, the EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value;

synthesizing the content-preserving EOC extracted from each respective concatenated EOC into summary digests; and

presenting the results as summary digests.

36. (Original)   The computer readable medium of claim 35, wherein the summary digests comprises color-coded sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

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